

Application No: 10/665,509

Docket No.: Q137-US9

Page 2

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

RECEIVED
CENTRAL FAX CENTER
DEC 20 2006

1.-57. (canceled)

58. (currently amended) A method of constructing an electric storage battery including battery, comprising:~~providing a case comprising a peripheral wall of electrically conductive material defining an interior volume and having first and second wall openings communicating with the interior volume;~~~~providing an electrically conductive terminal pin extending through the first end cap and electrically insulated from the case;~~~~providing an electrode assembly comprising first and second opposite polarity electrodes~~~~electrically coupling the first electrode to the pin;~~~~mounting the electrode assembly in the interior volume with the pin extending out through the first wall opening;~~~~mounting the first end cap to seal the first wall opening~~arranging battery components such thata pin extends from an interior of a case through a first end cap that seals a first opening in the case,an electrode is in electrical communication with the pin,an electrode is electrically insulated from the pin but is in electrical communication with a second end cap, andthe electrodes are wound around the pin;~~providing a second end cap of electrically conductive material; and~~~~electrically coupling the second electrode to the second end cap;~~transporting depositing electrolyte into the case through a the second wall opening in the case; andsealing the second opening with the second ~~mounting the end cap in the second wall opening to seal the second wall opening.~~

Application No: 10/665,509 Docket No.: Q137-US9

Page 3

59. (currently amended) The method of claim 58, wherein the electrolyte is transported into the case before the second opening is sealed with the second end cap ~~step of electrically coupling the second electrode to the second end cap~~ ~~precedes the step of depositing electrolyte into the case through the second wall opening.~~

60.-65. (canceled)

66. (new) The method of claim 58, wherein a weld attaches a flat portion of the tab to an inner face of the second end cap.

67. (new) The method of claim 58, wherein the second opening is sealed such that the tab extends from a first location adjacent to the case past a center point of the second cap to a second location where the tab is electrically connected to the second end cap.

68. (new) The method of claim 67, wherein the tab is not connected to the second end cap continuously over a distance extending from the first location to the second location.

69. (new) The method of claim 66, wherein the second opening is sealed such that a portion of the second end cap is adjacent to the tab and has a radius,
the tab being positioned adjacent to the portion of the second end cap without being connected to the second end cap for a distance that is longer than the radius.

70. (new) The method of claim 58, wherein the electrodes are electrode strips wound around the pin so as to form a spiral role on the pin.

71. (new) The method of claim 70, wherein the spiral role includes at least one separator separating the electrodes.

72. (new) The method of claim 70, wherein a mandrel is mounted on the pin such that the electrodes are wound around the pin and the mandrel.

Application No: 10/665,509 Docket No.: Q137-US9

Page 4

73. (new) The method of claim 72, wherein the mandrel includes a longitudinal slot; and wherein

one of the electrodes is in electrical communication with the pin and also extends through the mandrel slot.

74. (new) The method of claim 72, wherein one of the electrodes is in electrical communication with the pin and also includes a region that is positioned between the mandrel and the pin.

75. (new) The method of claim 72, wherein one of the electrodes is in electrical communication with the pin and includes active material positioned on a substrate, the substrate is positioned between the mandrel and the pin without the active material being positioned between the mandrel and the pin.

76. (new) The method of claim 72, wherein the mandrel is crimped onto the pin.

77. (new) The method of claim 72, wherein a weld attaches the mandrel to the pin.

78. (new) The method of claim 72, wherein the mandrel includes titanium or an alloy of titanium.

79. (new) The method of claim 72, wherein the mandrel includes a tube.

80. (new) The method of claim 79, wherein the pin is positioned in an interior of the tube.

81. (new) The method of claim 72, wherein the mandrel has a c-shaped cross-section.

82. (new) The method of claim 72, wherein the mandrel is fitted around the pin such that the electrodes are wound around the pin and the mandrel.

Application No: 10/665,509 Docket No.: Q137-US9

Page 5

83. (new) The method of claim 72, wherein the mandrel is a reinforcing mandrel.
84. (new) The method of claim 58, wherein at least one weld directly connects the pin to one of the electrodes that is in electrical communication with the pin.
85. (new) The method of claim 58, wherein the pin includes of a PtIr alloy.
86. (new) The method of claim 58, wherein the first end cap includes
an electrical insulator,
the pin extends through the electrical insulator, and
the pin is hermetically sealed to the electrical insulator.
87. (new) The method of claim 58, wherein the case is electrically conducting.